

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 /072 W
-----141102Z 040686 /21

P R 140943Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8726
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 01273

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNESCO, PORG, OCON
SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW

1. IN BRIEF MEETING WITH M'BOW, FOLLOWING PRESENTATION TO HIM OF DELEGATION SCIENCE OFFICER, SANDVED, PERMREP ASKED M'BOW FOR HIS VIEWS ON CURRENT STATUS OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND JERUSALEM ISSUES. ON THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, M'BOW SAID HE WAS NOT GOING TO PRESS FOR A VISIT OF THE TEAM NOW. HE WOULD AGREE TO POSTPONING THE MISSION UNTIL AFTER THE MAY ELECTIONS, BUT HE WANTS THE GOI TO ASK FOR THE POSTPONEMENT. M'BOW SAID HE DOES NOT WANT TO BE IN THE POSITION OF BEING BLAMED FOR FAILURE TO SEND THE MISSION. HE DID NOT WANT GOI TO BE ABLE TO SAY THAT IT WAS READY TO RECEIVE THE UNESCO TEAM, BUT THAT M'BOW WAS UNABLE TO DELIVER. M'BOW SAID HE SYMPATHIZES WITH THE INTERNAL PROBLEMS FACED BY GOI, BUT HE THINKS CONDITIONS IN THE TERRITORIES WILL NOT IMPROVE AND THE GOI MUST AGREE TO RECEIVE THE UNESCO TEAM AND IT SHOULD BE SOONER RATHER THAN LATER. BUT HE EMPHASIZED HE WOULD NOT IN-

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SIST ON THE TEAM LEAVING BEFORE THE MAY ELECTIONS. THIS WOULD MEAN THAT A REPORT COULD NOT BE PRESENTED BY THE TEAM TO THE SPRING EXBD.

2. ON JERUSALEM, M'BOW SAID HE WANTS TO SEND LEMAIRE TO DETERMINE THAT THE EXCAVATIONS HAD IN FACT STOPPED. HE SAID IF LEMAIRE COULD THEN REPORT THAT THEY HAD

STOPPED HE WOULD PRESENT SUCH A REPORT TO THE EXBD. IF THE REPORT WAS SUFFICIENTLY POSITIVE, M'BOW SAID THERE MAY BE POSSIBILITIES OF A RECOMMENDATION TO REMOVE THE SANCTIONS. HOWEVER, M'BOW DOUBTED THAT LE MAIRE WOULD GO BEFORE APRIL AND DOUBTED IF THE SPRING EXBD COULD ACT. WHEN ASKED WHAT IF THERE WERE OTHER EXCAVATIONS AWAY FROM THE MAZAR DIGS, BUT STILL IN THE TERRITORIES, M'BOW SAID HE DID NOT WANT TO CROSS THAT BRIDGE NOW. HE PREFERRED TO SEND LEMAIRE AND LET HIM MAKE A REPORT ON WHAT HE SEES.

3. M'BOW, AS EXPECTED EXPRESSED GRATITUDE THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD CERTIFIED. WHEN INFORMED OF PERM REP'S PLANS TO RETURN FOR CONSULTATION, M'BOW SAID HE HOPED WE WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL WITH THE CONGRESS. M'BOW DID NOT INDICATE HE INTENDED TO SEND NAJMAN WHEN QUERIED AS TO POSSIBLE TRAVEL TO THE US BY THE SECRETARIATE. HE SAID THAT KABORE WOULD GO TO NEW YORK (PREVIOUSLY REPORTED) AND THAT ADG FOR SCIENCE KADDOURA WOULD BE GOING SOON TO A SCIENCE MEETING. M'BOW SAID HE WAS READY AT ANY TIME TO COME TO THE US TO MEET WITH MEMBERS OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. M'BOW SAID HE WAS LEAVING FOR SYRIA TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT ASSAD ON FEBRUARY 3 TO 5.

4. M'BOW SAID HE DOES NOT CONSIDER THAT THE RESOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO HIM AS IT HAS NOT BEEN PASSED TO HIM THROUGH OFFICIAL US GOVERNMENT CHANNELS. HE SAID HE CONSIDERS THIS AVOIDS HIS CONFIDENTIAL

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HAVING TO OFFICIALLY RESPOND TO THE RESOLUTION. HE SAID HE WAS WRITING TO MRS. POWER.

5. WHEN ASKED WHETHER THE SPRING EXBD COULD FOLLOW UP ON THE POSITIVE NONPOLITICAL MOVES OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, M'BOW WAS VAGUE AND SIMPLY SAID HE EXPECTED A QUIET SPRING BOARD AND DID NOT NOW PLAN TO UNDERTAKE ANY INITIATIVES.

6. M'BOW WAS PRESSED FOR TIME AND THE CONVERSATION DID NOT GO MUCH FURTHER. HE SAID HE LEAVES FOR LAGOS OVER THE WEEKEND TO ATTEND THE ARTS FESTIVAL. M'BOW WAS HIS USUAL DAPPER, CONFIDENT SELF. GAMMON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770014-0750
Format: TEL
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770151/aaaabshh.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
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Message ID: 6f3e71d9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3596586
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW
TAGS: PORG, OCON, IS, UNESCO, (M'BOW, AMADOU MAHTAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6f3e71d9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009